

Secret of His Peace

TONS of "tranquilizers are consumed to achieve "peace" within, enabling one to relax, rest, and start afresh.

God did not intend it thus .

HE "is our portion."

Christendom has been told that the Son of God came to "Redeem man's soul" - for an unknown world in some distant "tomorrow."

What particle-Truth!

The Lord is HERE and Now, for our TODAY, even as in the days of His flesh He ministered to the needs of people then and there. You shall look in vain for as much as one oration by Him about preparing their "souls for heaven." HIS words were clear, but our churches have garbled His message. So, He also 'talks' to us thru history, and dramatizes Truth thru the fate of His chosen people. Look at this:

* I have already commented on this pas-
JOEL * sage with reference to world Jewry, but
3:1 * here I wish to give it additional treat-
* ment with reference to the individual.

Far too long have our priesthoods droned away on the historical, and occasionally the prophetic application of such passages. They have been treated as so many words on paper - mostly history, and/or cryptic forecasts of events to come, sometimes reaching into the apocalyptic phase of prognosis. Because of such blind and childish treatment of His word, we see the churches emptying, and Christendom going to the Devil. Did not our

great God of old declare, "Ye have limited the Holy One of Israel"? Repeatedly are my students reminded of this: not of the shortcomings of ancient Israel, but of the flagrant unbelief, and the crass materialism of modern Christendom which perpetually "limits the Holy One of Israel" as much, and maybe even more, than did ancient Israel.

Since our modern priesthoods--supposedly light bearers unto this age, are the very grossest of sinners with reference to this one matter, then what can we expect of their blind and simple sheep? Now, hear the word of God:

An aggregation of individuals we label a nation. As God deals with a nation, so will He deal with an individual; what He will do for a nation, He will do for the individual. Why were the Houses of ancient Israel sent into captivity, and serfdom to other nations? Because of their prolonged, willful, and continuous disobedience to the word of God, they were kicked out of the chosen and Holy Land, because they were a disgrace to the God who redeemed them. So, similarly with the individual; he enters into a state of prosperity, of progress, and happiness: the blessings of the Almighty appear upon him. Yet, in so many cases, in the course of time, his estate of blessedness blacks out into the groping darkness of a moonless midnight. Trouble assails him from every direction; worry, grief, and unhappiness consume his soul. His peace of mind departs. Although such experiences may vary in a thousand ways and more, yet multiplied millions of Christians have tasted thereof. Why? There may be the occasional exception, but by and large, precisely for the same reason as the Israel of old

were driven out of Palestine, with a sword at their heels and a chain on their necks. The person has been weighed in the balance of God and found wanting.

Look back to the Israel of God: they were harassed time and again, and portions of them were led captive: these compare to the minor difficulties in the life of the Christian. But two massive dispersions took place by God. (Yet the simple babble, "there is no second chance"). Now, you and I have seen world Jewry restored to Palestine (mid-May, 1948) but not until June, 1967, did they repossess Old Jerusalem.

What mean these events unto the individual? Why was Judah restored to the Land, but the Old City withheld from them? (Indeed, they might lose it again, but that doesn't detract from God's purpose, neither lessen the significance unto the individual.) How can we understand unless we know the meaning of words used. Judah means a happy handshake, even unto praise and acclaim. Jerusalem means the city of peace.

A fully representative number of ancient Israel has come back into Palestine, although it is generally recognized that the tribe of Judah is principal therein. What means this? It means that when you have been weighed in balance and found wanting, and sustained a measure of God's judgment upon you (for the here, and for the now) then, through the power of praise, even in the attitude of a happy handshake with God Almighty, thanking and praising Him for His great love to you-wards which goaded Him into taking the rod to you, that you might become properly corrected, and thereby restored into the fullness of His pleasurable will. He has not "punished" you, for, the

rod upon you dripped with His own tears, mingled with His blood! How can you be so blind as to not see the sorrow in His eyes, and the deep-etched pain in His face? It is the immeasurable love of a Heavenly Father, seeking only the greatest joy for His foolish offspring. But He knows the laws of the Kingdom, even the basic requirements in order that He may bless you without stint.

So, as the children of ancient Israel have repossessed the Land through the power of Judah, so likewise within the individual who has come under the rod of His love: you must enter into the understanding of His unspeakable love. You must see it as it is, then having entered into this understanding, you commence to praise Him from the bottom of your heart. Your very soul goes out in gratitude, and you happily praise Him for every lash received. When the Father beholds the lesson has been learned, and that the right spiritual attitude has been captured, and made your firm possession, then does He give you 'Jerusalem': even God's impregnable citadel of peace.

You want peace, peace that is beautiful and serene; peace that cannot be put into words; that peace which seems to be life itself: even the very 'soul' of God: therefore, learn to praise Him. Not merely for the abundance He has given you, not only for your days of health and strength, and not only for the joys and blessings, but very especially for every sting of His tear-drenched rod which has cut into your carnal flesh. Praise Him in the morning, praise Him throughout the morning, embrace Him at noonday, gurggle your delight through the afternoon, then at the close of day you fall down before Him with a song of praise reverberating His throne room.

VISITS * Students telephone me from the outer-

most boundaries of this continent, others motor hundreds of miles to spend a few brief moments with me. Sometimes I wonder if they get "their money's worth"? If they don't, it is not because I fail to try, but people are so slow to understand, and so stubborn to yield themselves unto truth. The other day a young man walked in: he had motored from Indiana. The first glance revealed that he was not in a spirit of praise. He thought he had his little troubles and "frustrations". Maybe so: these things are so understandable, for they are so human. But that is the very point we must understand: that is the very spot we must turn about. We are not to be "human": we have been called to be the shouting, singing, exuberantly happy miracle-children: even sons and daughters of our most fantastic Lord and Redeemer, even of the Creator of this very universe. I care not who you are or what your troubles may be, you just start shouting and singing, and make it your business that your joy shall carry you away; let the world think that you have gone mad: so what! The very house and the closest flesh and blood of our Lord and Redeemer went out to lay hands on Him, for they were quite convinced He was fully beside Himself! Just so long as the world is well convinced that you are one of them, just that long have you not touched the deeper depths of Jesus Christ, nor struck the faintest chord on the symphony of His soul. Just try it. Try it with all that you have, try it with all that you are, try it until your own ecstasy blends into the beauty of that which is Infinite love; this, and your own being swallowed up into the rhapsody of the Infinite. . . .

Then shall He appoint you rulership over "Jerusalem," and your peace shall daily flow as the

mightiest of rivers.

Of the foregoing I have told you before, yet now I repeat it with all the emphasis I can command, and yield it up to you as one of the greatest secrets unto the kingdom Here and Now.

*" - whosoever shall call on the name of the
* Lord shall be delivered; for, in Mt. Zion
* and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as
* the Lord has said, and in the remnant that
* the Lord shall call" — Joel 2:32.
* "For, behold, in those days, and in that
* time (when I shall bring again the captivity
* of Judah and Jerusalem" — Joel 3:1.

These are not idle words; still there remains a great problem: the 'problem' of getting these vital TRUTHS hammered into your thick head. It is the "brainwashing" from the time of your childhood which must be erased — until then Truth you can't receive, to say nothing of dwelling therein until it channels forth in daily life.

It is a point blank refusal to fret or worry regardless of the situation or event — knowing that you are in the Father's hand and experiencing His LOVE to you-ward. THIS believing, rejoice sing, and shout His praises. It is JUDAH (praise) unto whom the "dominion shall first come" (- Zech 12:6-7). "Sing aloud upon your bed": warble your way thru the day without a care (Father is at the helm); PRAISE Him in the spirit of vigorous enthusiasm at all times — even at moments when the clouds are blackest. PRAISE Him without ceasing: let your adoration ascend before Him even under the heaviest stripes. . .

THIS is one of the great secrets unto the life triumphant and doubly blessed. TRY IT !